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**CONFUCIUS
INSTITUTE**
IN EDMONTON

通讯
(Tōngxùn- newsletter)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

12/20/2019
November &
December,
2019



**The team at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton
wishes you and you family**

a Joyous Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!



CIE Library Welcomed School Students

On November 1st, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton library welcomed two groups of 51 students from Dovercourt School. The students are studying in the Chinese Bilingual program. The main purpose of this field trip was to choose Chinese books for students' class reading.

During the visit, the students listened to a Chinese story and chose their favorite books. Eventually 260 books and posters were checked out for them. The Chinese teacher Ms. Yang told us, "Our kids loved the trip and that they want to go back again."



The CIE library is a public access Chinese library with about 40,000 print and electronic volumes. Its collections cover many subjects such as language, culture, literature, arts, history, etc. It features Chinese language study and teaching resources and children's books. Since it was open in 2009, it has been providing free services to the teachers and staff in Edmonton Public Schools. It also supports Guided Reading for Chinese Bilingual program in Edmonton



Visit from China's Doctors at UA

On November 5th, four China's doctors visited the Confucius Institute in Edmonton accompanied by a staff of the University of Alberta. These doctors are from the Affiliated Hospital of Zhejiang University, China who are participating in a three-month academic medical program called Young Physician Program offered by the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta.

The visitors took a tour of the CIE. They also had an opportunity to meet with the CIE teachers. After a presentation on the work at the CIE and the positive results from the past 11 years, the visitors asked questions such as the cooperation between the UA and the CIE.



Public Schools by establishing the Guided Reading section where the Chinese books were leveled based on the guided reading level system developed by Irene Fountas & Gay Su Pinnell. We are looking forward to welcoming more students and teachers.

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The First CIE Chinese Writing Contest for School Students

On November 26th, the First CIE Chinese Writing Contest was held at Edmonton Public Schools. 613 students from 14 schools participated in the contest. They are currently enrolled in Chinese bilingual program or Chinese language and culture program.



The purpose of the CIE Chinese Writing Contest is to support the schools by encouraging the students to write in Chinese and improve their writing skills. The contest is similar to the HLATs (Highest Level of Achievement Tests) as all the students have the same writing topic regardless of grades. The difference is that the Chinese writing contest is completely voluntary.

In the future, the CIE will continue supporting the program by providing a CIE day for the participants during which they can learn about the CIE, public education in Edmonton, Chinese Bilingual program & Chinese and Culture program in Edmonton Public Schools as well as some information about Canada.

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Beijing Opera at School

On December 3rd and 4th, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton organized the Beijing Opera Workshop for school students. 22 artists from Mei Lanfang Beijing Opera Troupe brought the cultural treasure of China to Londonderry School and Meyonohk School.

During one-hour workshop, the students enjoyed the unique music of Beijing Opera played on the chief musical instruments such as jinghu, yueqin, sanxian, bangu (drum), cymbals, etc. They also learned the history, characteristics and facial masks of Beijing Opera by watching a short video.

The students had a further understanding of Beijing Opera after watching the live performance "Sanchakou (Where Three Roads Meet)" and "Farewell My Concubine". The former is a classic opera episode featuring mime and martial arts, while the latter features the Dan role (female role). The students also had a chance to go onto the stage and learn some movements and gestures.

There are five categories: elementary grade 4-6 students in Chinese bilingual program, junior high students in Chinese bilingual program, junior high students in Chinese language and culture program, senior high students in Chinese bilingual program, and senior high students in Chinese language and culture program.

The winners will be announced in January, 2020.

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Night of Beijing Opera

On December 6th, the Night of Beijing Opera was held at Triffo Theatre, MacEwan University. This was the sixth time that the Confucius Institute in Edmonton worked with Edmonton Beijing Opera Association (EBOA) to bring Beijing opera to Edmonton.

The artists from Mei Lanfang Beijing Opera Troupe and EBOA presented the classical Beijing opera "Longfeng Pavilion" which tells a story about Ming Dynasty court intrigue. The spectacular performance from four lead artists Junjie Chen, Shengcun Han, Botong Ma and Peggy Yu brought aloud ovation from the audience. The audience witnessed the beauty of Beijing opera and Chinese culture.



This workshop introduced the students to a new art form to explore Chinese language and culture.

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CIE Attended 2019 International Chinese Language Education Conference

On December 9th and 10th, the delegation of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton attended the 2019 International Chinese Language Education Conference in Changsha, China. Over 1,000 delegates from about 160 countries attended the conference.

The theme of the conference was "Innovation and Development of International Chinese Language Education in the New Era". 32 forums and workshops covered many topics that the delegates concerned about on international Chinese language education, including policies, standards, Chinese teachers, teaching resources, teaching methods, HSK/YCT tests, brand build, etc. Dr. Wei Li, the former director of the CIE, gave two presentations:



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one was on the Promotion and Improvement of HSK and YCT, and the other was Chinese Language Education Brand: Edmonton Chinese Bilingual Program, which were well received by the audience.



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CIE Received Excellent Test Center of Chinese Test

On December 10th, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton was awarded the "Excellent Test Center of Chinese Test" on the 2019 International Chinese Language Education Conference, one of seven receivers of this award.



Upcoming Events

With the Chinese New Year coming, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton will participate in a series of celebrations in January and February, 2020.

- **Chinese Culture Festival**

Date: January 4

Time: 10:30am - 4:30pm

Location: 16811 88 Avenue

- **Lunar New Year Extravaganza**

Date: January 18 & 19

In the past 12 years, the CIE received the "Overseas Chinese Test Center of the Year" twice. It also won the "2007-2017 Outstanding Contribution Award in Chinese Test" in 2017. These awards recognize the contributions and achievements of the CIE in promoting and organizing Chinese tests. In 2019, the CIE organized the HSK/YCT tests five times, and 1,469 people took the tests.

In order to encourage more students to learn Chinese and attend the HSK/YCT tests, the CIE set up the HSK/YCT scholarship. In 2019, 80 students from 14 schools received the scholarship for their excellent performances on HSK/YCT tests.

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Time: January 18 @10am - 10pm

January 19 @10am - 6pm

Location: West Edmonton Mall

- **Lunar New Year Celebration**

Date: January 26

Time: 12:30pm - 4:00pm

Location: Kingsway Mall

- **Lunar New Year Event**

Date: February 1

Time: 11am - 4pm

Location: Bonnie Doon Centre

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